

International Conference  
***The Musical World of Fairgrounds in Europe, 19th-21st Centuries***  
University of Fribourg – Department of Musicology  
22-24 April 2026

Organizers: Prof. Anna Stoll Knecht, Dr. Nicholas Rogers, Achille Kienholz  
Conference in French, English and German

**Program (Provisional)**

**Wednesday 22 April**

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| 9:00-9:30   | Welcome  |
| 9:30-9:45   | General introduction   |
| 9:45-10:45  | <b>Keynote 1:</b> Zeev Gourarier: <i>De la foire à la fête foraine</i> (Chair : Anna Stoll Knecht)   |
| 10:45-11:00 | Coffee break   |
| 11:00-12:30 | <b>Session 1: Diverse sounds on the fairground</b><br><br>- Agnès Curel: <i>Le bonisseur et ses boniments dans les fêtes foraines : exploration d'un univers sonore (1870-1914)</i><br><br>- Sarah Kirby: <i>'A Band of Fair Performers': The Viennese Ladies' Orchestra in British Fairgrounds, 1885–1895</i> |
| 12:30-14:00 | Lunch  |
| 14:00-15:30 | <b>Session 2: Early cinema 1</b><br><br>- Joseph Garncarz: <i>Zur Funktion der Musik im europäischen Jahrmarktkino</i><br><br>- Arnaud Le Marchand: <i>Sociologie foraine et diffusion du cinéma en France au tournant du XX<sup>e</sup> siècle</i>  |
| 15:30-15:45 | Coffee Break   |
| 15:45-17:15 | <b>Session 3: Fairground music in audiovisual media</b><br><br>- Matt Lawson: <i>The Audiovisual Role of Fairground Music in Film, TV, and Games</i><br><br>- Gergely Loch: <i>Belgian Fairground Organ in the Soundtrack of a Hungarian Cartoon</i>   |
| 18:00-20:00 | Barrel and Fairground Organ Demonstration by Peter X. Bürgisser and Ueli Temperli at the Espace Jean Tinguely Niki de Saint-Phalle   |

## Thursday 23 April

- 09:00-10:00 **Keynote 2:** Philippe Crasse: *Orgues en fête: musique dans le monde forain, 1850-1950* (Chair : Achille Kienholz)
- 10:00-10:15 Coffee break
- 10:15-11:45 **Session 4: Mechanical music**
- Raphael Lüthi: *Mechanische Musikinstrumente für den Jahrmarkt: Herkunft, Entwicklungsgeschichte, Musik*
  - Achille Kienholz: *Devices of Heritage: The Role of Mechanical Music in the Historicization of European Funfairs*
- 11:45-13:30 Lunch
- 13:30-15:00 **Session 5: Early cinema 2**
- Marco Ladd: *Accidental Synchrony in Fairground Film Exhibition*
  - Nicholas Rogers: *The Performative Architecture of Fairground Cinema*
- 15:00-15:15 Coffee break
- 15:15-16:45 **Session 6: Reception of the fairground in postwar France**
- Tatiana Senkevitch: *Henri Sauguet's Les Forains in the Context of Postwar Culture*
  - Anna Stoll Knecht: *The Fairground Imaginaire in Jacques Tati's Films*
- 19:30 Conference dinner

## Friday 24 April

- 09:00-10:00 **Keynote 3:** Nele Wynants: *Louder, Brighter, Stranger: Theatricality, Sound, and the Culture of Attractions on the Nineteenth-Century Fairground* (Chair: Nicholas Rogers)
- 10:00-10:15 Coffee break
- 10:15-12:30 **Session 7: Cultures of the fairground**
- Erkki Huhtamo: *What is Culture of Attractions?*
  - Margit Ramus: *Visuelle Gestaltung und Architektur deutscher Jahrmärkte*
  - Ian Trowell: *'Rave Machines' - On British Fairgrounds and Pop Music.*
- 12:30-12:45 Concluding remarks
- 12:45-14:15 Lunch